

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle navigation system that obtains a current position of a vehicle and displays a map including the current position and vicinity thereof on a display means comprising:

a data storage means; and

a control means, wherein

the data storage means stores data on names and categories of points of interest indicated on sign boards provided at freeway exits and supplemental items regarding facilities and services available at the points of interest,

the control means performs a search for a point of interest that provides a supplemental item specified by an input from a user based on the data stored in the data storage means, and

the control means searches for an exit at which a sign board indicating the searched point of interest is provided and displays the searched exit on the display means.

2. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means searches for the point of interest in a category specified by an input from the user.

3. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means only displays the searched exit on the display means.

4. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1,

wherein the control means displays the searched exit on the display means in a manner that the searched exit is distinguishable from other exits.

5. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means displays information regarding the supplemental item on the display means.

6. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means displays the searched exit on the display means when the searched exit is located ahead of the current position of the vehicle.

7. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 6, wherein the control means displays the searched exit on the display means in a manner that the searched exit is distinguishable from other exits.

8. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means displays the searched exit on the display means when the point of interest is located within a predetermined distance from the searched exit.

9. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 8, wherein the control means displays the searched exit on the display in a manner that the searched exit is distinguishable from other exits.

10. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 1, wherein the control means searches a route to the searched point of interest and displays the route on the display means.

11. A vehicle navigation system that obtains a current position of a vehicle and displays a map including the current position and vicinity thereof on a display means comprising:

a data storage means; and

a control means, wherein

the data storage means stores data on categories of points of interest and supplemental item regarding facilities and services available at the points of interest, and

the control means performs a search for a point of interest that provides a supplemental item specified by an input from a user in a category specified by an input from a user based on the data stored in the data storage means and displays the searched point of interest on the display means.

12. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 11, wherein the control means displays the point of interest on the display means when the point of interest is located within a predetermined distance from the current position.

13. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 11, wherein the control means searches a route to the searched point of interest and displays the route on the display means.

14. A vehicle navigation system that obtains a current position of a vehicle and displays a map including the current position and vicinity thereof on a display means comprising:

a data storage means for storing data on categories of points of interest and supplemental item regarding facilities and services available at the points of interest; and

the control means performs a search for a point of interest that provides a supplemental item specified by an input from a user based on the data stored in the data storage means.

15. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 14, wherein the control means displays the point of interest on the display means when the point of interest is located within a predetermined distance from the current position.

16. The vehicle navigation system according to claim 14, wherein the control means searches a route to the searched point of interest and displays the route on the display means.